



COLUMBUS CITY COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

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CONTINUED COST SAVINGS: Columbus City Council continues to enact a series of economic reform measures it promised Columbus residents in 2009, when voters passed the income tax increase. The changes contained in *ordinance 0705-2013*, sponsored by Administration Committee Chair [Hearcel F. Craig](#), will continue to bring revenue in line with expenditures and reflect changes in the overall marketplace. With the passage of this legislation, employees will pay more for their health insurance and pension pick-up. Employees hired after January 1, 2010, do not receive any pick-up. These reforms will keep Columbus on track to save more than \$202 million by 2019, more than double the original savings estimate.

CAPITAL BUDGET CONSIDERATION: Columbus City Councilmembers will vote on the 2013 Capital Improvements Budget (CIB) this evening. Finance Committee Chair [Priscilla R. Tyson](#) is sponsoring *ordinance 0654-2013*. The capital budget focuses city resources on improving neighborhoods and supporting economic development efforts all around Columbus. The total funding in the CIB is \$374.9 million and would not be possible without the increased investment by Columbus residents. Of this amount, \$126.4 million, or nearly 33.7%, is supported by enterprise revenues and miscellaneous smaller revenues such as internal service fees and federal and state funding sources, not the set-aside of income taxes. Councilmembers will each take a moment to highlight their capital budget priorities.

SUMMER FOOD SERVICES: A key for a happy and healthy summer for thousands of Columbus children is access to quality food in a safe and nurturing environment. Recreation and Parks Committee Chair [Zach M. Klein](#) is sponsoring two ordinances to fund the 2013 Summer Food Program. *Ordinance 0672-2013* authorizes and directs the Director of Recreation and Parks to accept a \$2,068,856 grant from the Ohio Department of Education and enter into contract with Columbus City Schools for the operation of the program that will serve approximately 160,000 breakfast meals, 340,000 lunch meals and 30,000 snacks at more than 190 sites in the greater Columbus area. The City is also using \$1,900,000 from the Recreation and Parks Grant Fund 286 to pay for the program. The second ordinance is *0735-2013*, which provides \$250,000 through the Neighborhood Initiatives Fund to help increase the participation of eligible youth in summer food programming. Eighty percent of Columbus children qualify and take advantage of free

or reduced-price lunches during the school year, but only about 12 percent use the summer food sites. Funding will be used for advertising the summer lunch program and sites, renting trucks and taking food to the neighborhoods, and increasing the part-time staff to handle increased monitoring responsibilities.

SUPPORTING THE COMMUNITY CRIME PATROL: For 20 years, the Community Crime Patrol (CCP) has helped the Columbus Division of Police deter criminal activity in Columbus neighborhoods by identifying suspicious activities indicative of criminal behavior and reporting them to authorities. *Ordinance 0709-2013*, sponsored by Public Safety and Judiciary Committee Chair [Michelle M. Mills](#), authorizes the Director of Public Safety to enter into an agreement with the Community Crime Patrol, Inc. to patrol The Ohio State University District, Weinland Park, Hilltop, Franklinton, Merion Village, Downtown Park District (to include Scioto Mile, North Bank Park, Genoa, Scioto Audubon, and Bicentennial Park), and the Northland/North Linden Area. The CCP is funded by the City of Columbus, The Ohio State University and the United Way of Central Ohio. Ordinance 0709-2013 authorizes the expenditure of \$763,000.

HELPING HANDS: Councilmember [A. Troy Miller](#), chair of the Small & Minority Business Development Committee, is attending the 8th annual Greater Columbus Community Helping Hands Scholarship dinner Saturday, April 6, 6pm at the Marriott Columbus Airport on North Cassady Avenue. The event will raise money for a program that provides scholarships for college bound students from a number of Columbus high schools, including:

- Northland
- South
- East
- Walnut Ridge
- Linden-McKinley
- Mifflin

BRIGHTER NEIGHBORHOODS: Overhead street lights help strengthen communities by improving neighborhood safety. *Ordinance 0685-2013*, sponsored by Public Utilities Committee Chair [Eileen Y. Paley](#), will allow the Director of Public Utilities to enter into a contract with U.S. Utility Contractor, Co. for the Broad Meadows Overhead Street Lighting Project. The improvements will increase pedestrian and bicycle safety in the area. The total cost for the project is \$70,916.35.